

SAMUEL S. BINGHAM—WIDOW OF.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 745.]

MAY 18, 1860.

Mr. STOKES, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition and papers of Mrs. Abigail A. Bingham, ask leave to make the following report:*

It appears from the report that the petitioner, Abigail A. Bingham, is the widow of Samuel S. Bingham, deceased, who enlisted for five years in the army as a drummer; that he was at the battle of Tippecanoe, and subsequently ordered to Detroit, where he arrived on the 5th day of July, 1812; that on the 16th day of August following he was made a prisoner, upon the surrender of General Hull, and was sent as such to Kingston, and while waiting for a transport to take him to Montreal he made his escape, with another prisoner, by swimming the river St. Lawrence. He was in the water four hours, and for forty hours was without food or shelter. He immediately reported himself to General Dearborn, who granted him a furlough, which is now before your committee; also a certificate of pay, dated September 10, 1812, is now before your committee.

It appears he was, in April, 1813, ordered to Windsor, Vermont, and joined the fourth regiment, under command of Colonel Darrington, and continued as drum-major until the 10th of August, 1813, when he was honorably discharged.

From the exposure so long in the water he contracted a disease of which he never recovered, as is proven by a surgeon of good standing, who was personally acquainted with him for thirty years. The proof shows he was of good standing and of temperate habits. He died on the 21st of May, 1859. The petitioner, his widow, is now sixty-five years old and seeks a pension.

Your committee are of opinion that, had her husband lived, he would have obtained a pension under the proof before your committee. Having died, his widow, the petitioner, is clearly entitled to one, and your committee have, therefore, reported the accompanying bill, granting her a half-pay pension of four dollars per month, and ask its favorable consideration.

